

North Dakota Department of Health

What To Do if a Possible Anthrax Exposure Occurs

- 1) Do not shake or empty the contents of any suspicious envelope or package; DO NOT try to clean up powders or fluids.
- 2) Set down the envelope or package, LEAVE the room and CLOSE the door, or section off the area to prevent others from entering.
- 3) WASH your hands with **soap and water** to prevent spreading any powder to your face or skin.
- 4) Report the incident to local police; notify your building security official or an available supervisor to shut down the ventilation system.
- 5) Remove clothing and place in a plastic bag to store until you receive further guidance.
- 6) As soon as possible, shower with soap and water. Do not use bleach or disinfectant on your skin.
- 7) If possible, LIST all people who were in the room or area when the suspicious letter or package was recognized. Give this list to both the local public health authorities and law enforcement officials for follow-up investigations and advice.

This fact sheet was adapted from information provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.